

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 789

June 26 2024

“How Are You Relating To Others In Your Life?”

Jack and Jim both were coming to an end of a long tenure at their work, but both in different ways.

Jack had worked for 35 years for the same company. He started at the bottom and then gradually moved his way up to the top. Things were different 35 years ago, but Jack had adapted along the way. His work principles and ethics never changed, but the way he did things changed immensely over the years. Oh, and by the way, did I mention that Jack had a strong faith in Jesus Christ. In fact, his relationship with Jesus permeated through all of his life including work. There was no one that did not know where Jack stood when it came to his faith.

Jim had worked 30 years for the same company, but rose to the top in a different way. He would short-cut where he could, make promises where needed, but once he got what he wanted, often never followed through. Many in Jim's company considered him a “suck-up” to the brass so as to move his way up to the top and he did. Because of his unethical practices, very few liked Jim or had a relationship with him. Oh, and by the way, did I mention that Jim was not a Christian. He would often say, “If you don't lookout for yourself, no one else will!” He was certainly “self” oriented and every knew that Jim was out for himself and didn't mind stepping on anyone that got in his way.

Jack was praised for his work on this last day. He was retiring with honors for what he was able to accomplish with his company and many attributed their success to Jack. He gave and surrendered a lot so that others could succeed. He sacrificed pay advancements so that others could receive a raise. No, Jack was not perfect, but he did attempt daily to live his life in the image of his Savior.

Jim on the other hand was leaving, not because he wanted to, but because he had to. Jim, in his usual selfish way, had seen one of his colleagues receive a bonus that Jim thought he deserved, and so he decided, “If they won't give me a bonus, I'll take it.” So he found a way to transfer funds from the company bank account into a “dummy account” he had set-up at the bank. I think we have all heard, “Be sure your sins will find you out!” Well it was not long before Jim was called before the CFO to give account of himself. After many lies and excuses, Jim was told to clear out his things and leave. As Jim walked out the door for the final time, cheers broke out throughout the office building knowing that they would never have to work for or put up with Jim and his attitude/work ethic again.

Question? How are you relating to others in your life? Is life more about you or others? Does grace and mercy abound in your dealing with others or not? Do you speak “truth in love” (Eph. 4:15) when needed or become dogmatic in your responses? How you respond to these questions will tell you a lot about how you view yourself and others.

I could give you many scriptures to drive the point home, but just a few are here to share:

Matthew 7:12 “In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

Luke 6:30-32 “Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. Treat others the same way

you want them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them.”

Mark 12:30-31 “And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

I know that I can be very passionate about things. That is very much my nature. But my heart is never to be harmful or hurtful in my responses to anyone. That is not me. I know over 32 ½ years of ministry some have taken my responses the wrong way, and for those times I am sorry. But my heart's passion is to glorify and serve the LORD and I do that very passionately.

This Sunday, June 30, 2024, will be my last Sunday serving as an installed pastor of a church (unless God has plans down the road I don't know about). When I lay down my keys and walk out of the building, I will do it knowing that I have tried my best to serve rightly and righteously over these years of service and I pray that in some way, some have come to faith, grown in their faith, and somehow been blessed. That was always my intention. I would pray, just maybe, I would be remembered more like Jack than Jim. Why? Certainly not for my glory, but for His.

Christian, how is your relationship with others in your life and even those outside of your life? Relationships are so important. Please love others as God has called us to do and treat them with respect regardless of differing points of view. It is then that others will see Christ working in and through you. May the LORD be praised.

Blessings my friends! I have so enjoyed these Wednesday Connections with you and hopefully you have gleaned a little of my heart for the LORD. This is my last Connection article, so will sign-off now.

In HIM,

Pastor Marty – HOPE Church Raleigh
Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 26

Wednesday Night Study
& Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 27

Worship Team Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 30

Worship Team Run Through
@ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Following Worship - Celebration of
Pastor Marty's Retirement

Wednesday, July 3

Wednesday Night Study
& Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 4 Independence Day

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - June 30
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - June 30
Elizabeth Floyd

Soundboard - June 30
Jane Davis

Live Streaming - June 30
Al Floyd

Communion - June
Donna Williams

Greeter - June 30
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - June 30
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

2 Kings 2:1 - 15

"As One Ministry Ends -
Another Begins

Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month"
for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Canned Vegetables
We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry
Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

TLC Devotion
4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.
5124 Departure Dr # 101, Raleigh

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE
Saturday, July 13
Topic: How do you deal with
loneliness? Meeting at:
First Watch - 6320 Capital Blvd,
Suite 130, Raleigh (closes at 2:30)

Wednesday Night Ministries

**Summer schedule on
Wednesday nights
Study & Prayer**

Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Time @ 8:45 p.m.

Is prayer a passion for you?
HOPE Church Raleigh
has a new ministry.

The ***Sunday Prayer Ministry***
If you would like to participate,
please contact Diane Mack
beautybycaris@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Janice
Worthington, Jamie Baldwin, Ron Clifton,
Donna Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy
Herriman's Sister & Brother-in-law),
Loretta (Sandi Underwood's daughter),
Joan Summers, Shelley, Diane Mack's
Sister-in-law, Jordan & Cinnamon (son
and daughter of Lynn Joyner's family
members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere
(Lynn Joyner's brothers), Gene & Becky
Hale, Ellie Tappan, Dave & Dot Geil,
Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra
Pierce's dad and stepmom), our Military,
our Missionaries, our Nation, and the
world.

If you have those you would like added to
our prayer concerns, please email me

HOPE - REBOOT NOW

**Everyday Prayer
For
The Vision Team
The Session
The Congregation**

**Retirement Celebration for
Pastor Marty & Family
Sunday, June 30th Following
Worship
Lunch Provided**

**If our HOPE members that are
able, could park in the grass
area or next door in their front
parking lot, that would give
space in our parking lot for our
guest as they join us for
worship on Sunday**

Quote of the Week

*"We are most like God
when we forgive."*

William Arthur Ward

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh"
in the search box)

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Jun	30	Rom	5
Jul	1	Rom	6
Jul	2	Rom	7
Jul	3	Rom	8
Jul	4	Rom	9
Jul	5	Rom	10
Jul	6	Rom	11